

Women's soccer: CU Buffs win but don't take home Colorado Cup

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Last year, the Colorado soccer team walked off of the Colorado College field with a disappointing tie, but the Buffaloes carried the Colorado Cup with them.

Sunday, the Buffs got a big win over Colorado College, but left their home field without the Cup.

It wasn't tough for CU head coach Danny Sanchez to pick which result felt better.

"I'll take the win every day of the week," Sanchez said after his team's 1-0 victory at Prentup Field. "I'm really pleased with how the players battled today and got the result. It was a good win for us."

Freshman Brie Hooks continued her torrid start by notching the only goal of the game as the Buffs (2-0-0) remained unbeaten.

The third annual Colorado Cup features CU, CC, Denver and Northern Colorado. CU and Denver both finished 2-0 and both had a goal differential of four. Denver was awarded the Cup by virtue of scoring more goals during the tournament than the Buffs, 5-4.

Although this is the first time the Buffs have failed to win the Cup, they weren't too upset about it.

"We wanted the Cup, but we come out of the weekend with two wins and two shutouts, so it's big-time," senior defender Lizzy Herzl said. "That was 90 minutes of hard soccer. We came through and we were dominating the whole time, so it feels good."

The Buffs out-shot the Tigers (0-2-0), 21-5, including an 8-3 advantage in shots on goal. Ironically, it was an unintentional shot that won the game. Hooks, who scored twice in CU's opener against UNC, lofted a ball over CC keeper Kate Scheele and into the net during the 53rd minute.

"Honestly, I wasn't trying to shoot at all," Hooks said. "I was just trying to keep it in and I got my hips around it and it happened to go in. It worked out in my favor, I guess."

The first player in CU history to score twice in her Buffs debut, Hooks is already just the 13th Buff to score three goals in her freshman year -- and she's only been on the field for 78 minutes. So far, she's scored on all three of her shots on goal.

"Not really something I expected, I guess, but to go out there and get three goals in the first two games is a good way to show that I can do what I can out there on the field," she said.

While Sunday's goal might have been a lucky one, Sanchez said he felt his team deserved the result it got.

"Obviously it's a bit fortunate, but having said that, I thought we had more of the run of play," he

said. "I felt we had more quality chances at frame."

Notable

CU has yet to allow a goal in the three-year history of the Colorado Cup, going 5-0-1 and outscoring its opponents 15-0. ... CU is off to a 2-0 start for the third time in four years. The only exception was last year, when the Buffs started 1-0-1. ... The Buffs improved to 7-2-1 all-time against the Tigers, including 7-0-1 in the last eight meetings. CC hasn't scored against the Buffs in the last three meetings.

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